Docket No.: 2004P09871

Application No. PCT/EP2005/052080 Prel. Amendment dated 09/22/06

Abstract of the Disclosure:

A monitoring unit for the exterior in the direction of travel of a motor vehicle includes at least one camera system with an image recording sensor. The sensor has color encoding in some regions and, otherwise, monochrome encoding. An assist system is also provided with such a monitoring unit, in particular a traffic sign and/or lane recognition assist system.